No.

P

A

P

Co

Bu
the
$68

dol
ori

cos
wa
an
Va

Br

CC

Ou

Th

Th

No. 4.

4

ONTARIO GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1894.

ONTARIO'S NEW

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS.

A MAGNIFICENT BUILDING ERECTED AT REASONABLE COST AND PRACTICALLY WITHOUT EXTRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS IN ONTARIO AND THE DOMINION CONTRASTED.

CONSERVATIVE PROPHECIES GONE WRONG.

Cost of Ontario's New Parliament Buildings, Jan 1, 1894, $1,300,017, and practically no Extras.

Against this sum must be put the value of the lands occupied by the old Parliament Buildings and part of the Asylum farm, the proceeds of which, when sold, are to form the "Parliament Buildings construction fund." The estimated value of these lands is $650,000, thus making the *net* cost of the new buildings to the people only about $650,000.

On the seventeen contracts, involving in round numbers a million and a quarter dollars, the total cost to the Province exceeds the aggregate amount called for in the original contracts by a **sum less than thirteen thousand dollars.**

Thus there is the trifling sum of $13,000 not covered by the contracts for a building costing a million and a quarter, or about one per cent.; and nearly $12,000 of this $13,000 was occasioned by additional excavating and concreting, the use of a superior cement, and the increased cost of certain stone which could not be procured from the Credit Valley quarries.

Compare this proportion of Extras with the Extras in the Langevin Block and the Curran Bridge mentioned below.

COMPARISON WITH OTHER CANADIAN PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND WORKS.

Ottawa Parliament Buildings

Have cost, up to June 30th, 1892, (including new Departmental Building) within a few dollars of	$5,000,000

The Langevin Block—

Contracts were for	$456,515
Actual payments	**778,961**
Leaving extras at nearly as much as the original contract price, viz..	322,446

The Curran Bridge—

Cost estimated by Dominion Government Engineers	$ 195,000
Actual Cost	**436,000**
Amount of extras under the Public Works system of the Dominion Government	241,000

Quebec Parliament Buildings—

Occupying not more than half of the space of the Ontario Buildings, cost more than the latter, viz..... ..... $1,393,783

Toronto's New City Hall: commenced in 1887, first story only reached, $1,600,000 already voted.

Montreal Court House: *Le Monde*, of Montreal, says it has cost over a million dollars for repairs alone.

COMPARISON WITH STATE AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN UNITED STATES.

New York State Capitol at Albany, including the grant of the Legislature for 1894, has cost $20,673,499. The *Buffalo Express* adds :—"And there is no sign of an end yet. Commissioner Perry thinks $3,300,000 will be needed before the great stone pile can be called finished. . . . Twenty millions has been wasted on a building which was to have cost three millions."

Illinois State Buildings (population 3,077,000).....	$3,500,000
Connecticut Public Buildings (population 610,000).....	2,500,000
Iowa State Buildings (population 1,600,000).....	1,500,000
Michigan State Buildings (population 1,630,000).....	1,505,000
New York Court House and Post Office	7,000,000
Chicago Custom House (population 503,000)	4,000,000
Chicago City Hall and Court House.....	4,000,000
Baltimore City Hall and Court House (population 332,000)	3,000,000
St. Louis City Hall and Court House.....	1,200,000
New York Custom House	1,850,000

Philadelphia City Hall (population 850,000). Sixteen millions have been expended on it, and still there is a demand for millions more with which to finish it.

San Francisco City Hall. "Fabulous millions have been poured into the huge municipal pile, about which jobbery and scandal have endlessly multiplied."

Minneapolis City Hall. "Minneapolis undertook to build a City Hall and County Buildings, to be kept within a million and a half, but before the first story was finished it was found its completion would reach seven millions."

WORDS OF PRAISE FROM INDEPENDENT AND CONSERVATIVE PAPERS.

Toronto *Mail*, February 23, 1891:—" . . . The magnificent pile that has been erected in Queen's Park at a figure which, notwithstanding its extent, is moderate for the work that has been done, is an ornament to Toronto . . . . The outlay upon them, in so far it has been carefully expended, will not be begrudged by anyone who has pride in the Province and its capital."

The Toronto *Evening News* (Independent Conservative), April 4th, 1893 :—

"FULL VALUE HAS BEEN RECEIVED."—If the cost of the Provincial Parliament buildings does not exceed $1,250,000, the Opposition will find little material for campaign thunder in this particular account. The sum mentioned was not too much to spend in providing a fit meeting place for the Legislature of the first province of Confederation, and the structure erected is a credit alike to the Government and the people for whom the Government has acted.

And again on March 24th, 1894 :—

"No Room for Boodle there."—The Lionel Yorke contract for the carpenter work on the new Parliament Buildings was $90,700, and the extras amounted to $300. On the $76,800 contract for plumbing, heating and gas-fitting there was an additional claim for $900. And $12,000 was allowed over the price first agreed upon for the $752,000 job on excavation, masonry and brick work. In all, on close upon $1,000,000 worth of work, the extras over the sum first fixed amounted to only one-and-a-half per cent. Whatever else may be said about the Mowat Government or the new Provincial Parliament buildings, these facts at all events are very much to the credit of the Ministry. They show the extreme care exercised in framing the contracts in the first place, and the firmness with which contractors were held to the terms afterwards. It is doubtful if an equally good showing can be made in connection with the erection of any other great public building on this continent.

Toronto *Evening Telegram* (Independent), April 5th, 1893 : -"No Province ever got more for its money than Ontario secured in the New Parliament Buildings, and no building was ever erected with less of jobbery and bungling in the work. . . . Altogether, the building is a credit to the Government that planned the work, to Hon. C. F. Fraser, who supervised it, and to the Province, the greatness and the hopes of which are not unworthily typified by the new abode of its Legislature."

E. E. Sheppard in *Toronto Saturday Night* (Conservative), April 8th, 1893 :—"I think that . . . Ontario is getting the worth of her money in the new Parliament Buildings, and though I am no friend of the Government, I think it is in poor taste and belonging to bad morals that a building so economically constructed and so well adapted to the purpose for which it is designed, should not be commended to the public as an example of the honesty and definiteness of purpose which have characterized the Hon. C. F. Fraser in his management of this important public work. . . I think it will be generally agreed that the building is a useful one and worth the money which it at present appears to have cost. . . . It is built for the doing of business, and the light and ventilation are both excellent. I know of no building of equal size and cost in which the designer has taken such pains to make the building useful, and for this the Hon. Mr. Fraser and his architect should be thanked."

The *Buffalo Express* :—"The cost of Ontario's New Parliament Buildings is evidence to the effect that public work may be done on a business-like basis. That is a fact which a good many States, and the United States Government have yet to learn."

CONSERVATIVE PROPHECIES GONE WRONG.

The Conservative members of the Legislature and the Conservative press indulged in all kinds of wild forebodings prior to and during the construction of the New Parliament Buildings.

The "Empire's" Prophecies.

Empire Editorial, January 31st, 1889 :—"The old Parliament Buildings may be shaky, and even rotten, but it is very certain that from the very first vote the proceedings connected with the new building will carry off the palm in these respects." Another editorial in the *Empire* of May 17th, 1889, characterized the proceedings in connection with the erection of the new buildings as "one of the worst pieces of official mismanagement and political knavery that this Province has ever witnessed."

Again, on October 7th, 1889, the *Empire* referred to the cost of the new buildings as $3,500,000, and added, "this certainly is a large sum, but the people of Ontario are dreading that it may be considerably exceeded. . . . The whole proceeding regarding this building so teem with corruption and partisanship that the people may well dread further developments in the same line."

Mr. Meredith's Guess.

In the debate in the Legislature, March 6th, 1890, on the question of new Parliament Buildings, Mr. Meredith interrupted the Hon. Mr. Fraser, who was speaking, by saying that "the new buildings would cost two millions of dollars."

The Toronto "World's" Prediction.

The Toronto *World*, May 1st, 1890 :—"As a matter of fact two millions and over will have been spent on the New Parliament Buildings before we ever see the Legislature sitting in them.

The Big Figures of a Conservative M.P.P.

Mr. Wilmot (Conservative M.P.P. for Frontenac), said April 14th, 1887 :—"The buildings would cost $4,000,000 or $5,000,000 he felt sure."

Mr. G. F. Marter's Bonnet Bet.

Toronto *Evening News*, December 10th, 1892 :—In May, 1890, when the Provincial Campaign was in progress. G. F. Marter, M.P.P., stated several times during the contest that "the new Parliament Buildings were going to cost us over two million dollars." He was using this as one strong argument against the Government. At Uffington, in the Township of Draper, he repeated the statement. To satisfy the audience that he believed it himself he stated "that he would present every lady in the Township of Draper with a new hat if the Parliament pile would, when completed, cost one cent less than two million." Speaking at Housey's Rapids in Ryde Township he made a similar offer to the ladies of Ryde. The Parliament Buildings are now about completed, and we say that they have cost less than a million and a half. The Dominion census returns of 1892 give Draper a population of 1,082 and Ryde 612. The female population is always ahead of the male. To be inside this mark take the half of the population of the two townships, or 847. That ought to be about the number of ladies hats Mr. Marter will give away.

Up to date Mr. Marter has not redeemed his last wager, and the fair ladies of these two Muskoka townships are still awaiting their new spring hats.

WHAT ARE THE FACTS?

Instead of costing two, three, four or five millions, as wildly predicted, the Buildings cost a little over a million and a quarter.

They were erected in the short period of six years.

Instead of the *Empire's* former election cries of "official mismanagement," "political knavery," "teeming corruption and partizanship," coming true, the truth lies in the opinion of the *Toronto Evening Telegram*, an independent paper, "that Mr. Fraser's fiercest opponents never questioned his title to rank as one of the most faithful administrators of public money who ever held office in any Government or in any country."

No member of the Opposition, and no Conservative paper has dared to insinuate "political knavery" or "teeming corruption" in connection with the erection of these buildings.

The Mowat Government has set certain other Governments an example they might well follow in the administration of its Public Works Department.

If there had been a proportionately large excess on the construction of the Ontario Parliament buildings, as is shown in connection with the Curran bridge, the Province would have lost more than a million dollars.

In conclusion, the expenditure of eight million of dollars by the Mowat Government on public works and buildings during the 22 years, 1872-93, have been as free from "knavery" and "corruption" as has been the million and a quarter expended on the New Parliament Buildings.

Copies of this Pamphlet may be had from ALEXANDER SMITH, 34 Victoria St., Toronto, at $1.00 per 1.000.

ns and over
Legislature

887 :—" The

e Provincial
the contest
lollars." He
gton, in the
t he believed
Draper with
ess than two
r offer to the
we say that
of 1892 give
ays ahead of
o townships,
give away.
dies of these

---

the Buildings

t," " political
ith lies in the
Mr. Fraser's
hful adminis-
ountry."

l to insinuate
ction of these

le they might

of the Ontario
, the Province

at Government
as free from
expended on

$1.00 per 1.000.